

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 10421 190636Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2168

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 10421

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD, IEA, IT

SUBJECT: US-ITALIAN ENERGY COOPERATION

REF: (A) STATE 1638235;

(B) OECD PARIS 18433;

(C) ROME 10045;

(D) ROME 9705

1. AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL (A), DCM AND EMBOFF CALLED ON MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) ENERGY COORDINATOR MIGLIUOLO JULY 18. DCM MADE PRESENTATION ALONG LINES REFTEL (A).

2. MIGLIUOLO SAID HE REGRETTED APPARENT MISUNDERSTANDING ON GOI POSITION ON LONG TERM COOPERATION, WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO DOCUMENT PREPARED FOR IEA/GB DISCUSSION AT JUNE 30-JULY 1 GB MEETING. HE REITERATED ARGUMENTATION REPORTED REFTEL (C). MIGLIUOLO STRESSED THAT GOI DESIRED "REEVALUATION" OF DOCUMENT BECASUE IT WAS, AS DRAFTED, UNACCEPTABLE TO SEVERAL IEA MEMBERS, NOT JUST ITALY. IT THEREFORE WOULD HAVE BEEN PREFERABLE TO POSTPONE DISCUSSION UNTIL REVISED DRAFT AVAILABLE. SINCE THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE, GOI DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION AT GB MEETING, FOR REASONS EXPLAINED TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS AT JUNE 28 ROME SESSION.

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PAGE 02 ROME 10421 190636Z

3. MIGLIUOLO SAID GOI WOULD PROBABLY BE ABLE LIFT ALL ITS

RESERVATIONS TO IEA/GB (75)48 OF 7 JULY 1975 EXCEPT FOR THAT ON PARA (D), PAGE 11. HE SAID HIS UNDERSTANDING IS THAT USG ALSO HAS PROBLEMS WITH THIS PARAGRAPH. HE NOTED GOI STILL CONSIDERING 120 DAYS RESERVE REQUIREMENT AND NOTED THERE MAY BE CONFLICT WITH ESTABLISHED EC POLICY ON THIS POINT. IT MAY BE A MATTER OF DEFINITION.

4. MIGLIUOLO EXPLAINED, IN RESPONSE DCM'S PRESENTATION, THAT GOI HAD JOINED IEA "IN SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY". WHILE AGREEING THAT IEA WAS USEFUL AND PROPER FORUM FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION ON LONG TERM PROBLEMS, HE EMPHASIZED THAT ITALIAN PROBLEMS RE ALTERNATE ENERGY SOURCES (I.E. ENEL NUCLEAR PROGRAM WHICH IS ONLY OPTION AVAILABLE TO ITALY) WERE IMMEDIATE AND REQUIRED ACTION IN SHORTER TIME FRAME THAN WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN MULTILATERAL FORUM SUCH AS IEA. THESE PROBLEMS--URANIUM SUPPLY AND FINANCING ARE MOST IMPORTANT--THERE FORE HAD TO BE DEALT WITH IN BILATERAL FORUM. OTHER ELEMENTS WERE PROPERLY WITHIN PURVIEW OF IEA.

5. MIGLIUOLO AGREED WITH GENERAL LINE IN PARA (4) REFTEL (A). HE SIAD GOI COMPILING FINANCIAL DATA AND WILL MAKE IT AVAILABLE ASAP. (DELAY SO FAR DUE TO GOVERNEMENT POLITICAL PROBLEMS,) GOI FINANCIAL PROGRAM ENVISAGES 5,000 MILLION (\$7.7 BILLION AT \$1 US EQUALS 650 LIRE) LIRE BEING RAISED FROM AUGMENTATION OF ENEL REVOLVING FUND AND INCREASED ENEL RATES. MINISTRY TREASURY HAS NOT YET COMPLETED ANALYSES FOR BORROWING PROGRAM IN ITALIAN, INTERNATIONAL AND US MARKETS. AS SOON AS THIS COMPLETED, FINANCIAL, PROGRAM WILL BE PRESENTED TO USG.

6. ON EXPERTS SUBGROUP, MIGLIUOLO SAID GOI WISHES SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO WASHINGTON IN EARLY AUGUST TO DISCUSS NATURAL URANIUM PROBLEMS AND TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE. VISIT WOULD BE AFTER ERDA TEAM'S EUROPEAN TRIP IN LATE JULY. HE MENTIONED SENDING A GEOLOGIST, A NUCLEAR ENGINEER AND A PERSON FROM THE ELECTRICITY MONOPOLY.

7. MIGLIUOLO IS ANXIOUS TO MEET ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS IN PARIS AND DESIRES A " WORKING LUNCH " WITH ENDERS, AND ITALIAN OECD AMBASSADOR CONTI ON JULY 28TH TO EXCHANGE VIEWS. HE STRONGLY IMPLIED THE NEED TO BRING CONTI AROUND TO A MORE HELP-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 10421 190636Z

FUL ATTITUDE. IT WAS EVIDENT THAT MIGLIUOLO HOPES FOR ENDERS' HELP IN THIS.

8. MIGLIUOLO ENVISAGES ANOTHER FORMAL MEETING OF US/ITALY BILATERAL ENERGY WORKING GROUP DURING THE FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER, FOR ON OR TWO DAYS IN WASHINGTON. HE WOULD LIKE THIS IN CONJUNCTION WITH BUT BEFORE 7TH UNGA SPECIAL SESSION IN NEW YORK, WHICH HE MUST ATTEND. HE SAID THE EARLY SEPTEMBER MEETING WOULD FACILITATE MEETING DECEMBER ONE DEADLINE AGREED AT LAST IEA/GB SESSION.

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